

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MUSCAT 00407 160542Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03
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FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3025
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

S E C R E T MUSCAT 0407

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR MU
SUBJECT: MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER

REF: STATE 039003; SECTO 2064

1. FONMIN ZAWAWI RECEIVED ME MARCH 14 IN FULFILLMENT MY REQUEST MADE FEB 22 TO BRIEF HIM ON SECRETARY'S FEB 20 MEETING WITH PENINSULAT CHIEFS OF MISSION. AFTER I OUTLINED HIGHLIGHTS (COVERING PURPOSES OF SECRETARY'S TRIP, HIS IMPRESSIONS FROM LEADERS HE HAD MET, NEW ADMINISTRATION'S POLICY AND PLAN OF ACTION ON BOYCOTT ISSUE, AND THE URGENT REVIEW BEING CONDUCTED ON ARMS SALES POLICY) ZAWAWI THANKED ME AND SAID HE WISHED OFFER TWO COMMENTS. FIRST, HE SAID HE FULLY SHARED SECRETARY'S CONVICTIONS THAT THE DESIRE OF KEY ARAB LEADERS, ESPECIALLY SADAT, TO ACHIEVE MIDEAST SETTLEMENT IS INSPIRED AMONG OTHER THINGS BY URGENT NEED TO REDUCE PROPORTION OF RESOURCES SPENT ON ARMS SO AS TO APPLY THEM MORE HEAVILY TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. SECOND, WHILE HE SYMPATHIZES WITH WISH TO CUT DOWN ARMS FLOW, HE HOPED WE WOULD KEEP IN MIND THAT IF THE U.S. OR THE WEST GENERALLY APPLIED BRAKES TOO RAPIDLY, MANY FRIENDLY COUNTRIES WITH LEGITIMATE NEEDS WOULD COME UNDER FEARFUL PRESSURE TO TURN TO SOVIET BLOC FOR THEIR SUPPLIES.

2. I TOOK OCCASION TO THANK ZAWAWI FOR PATIENCE WITH WHICH
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HE HAS PUT UP WITH OUR DELAYS IN GETTING BACK TO OMANGOV ON MASIRAH QUESTION, ADDING THAT MATTER IS RECEIVING URGENT ATTENTION AND HOPING HE WILL BEAR WITH US A LITTLE LONGER AS NEW ADMINISTRATION CONSIDERS SUBJECT IN CONTEXT OF OUR OVERALL POLICY. HE NODDED BUT MADE NO COMMENT.

3. ZAWAWI'S REMARKS ON PRESENT OFFICIAL VISIT TO OMAN BY

SUDAN'S PRESIDENT NIMEIRI BEING REPORTED SEPARATELY.

WOLLE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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